MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS WESTERN DISTRICT

IN THE INTEREST OF; T.J. and W.J., JUVENILE OFFICER,

Respondent,

v.

V.L.C. (Mother),

Appellant.

DOCKET NUMBER WD78963

Date: July 26, 2016

Appeal from:

Jackson County Circuit Court

The Honorable John M. Torrence, Judge

Appellate Judges:

Division One: Anthony Rex Gabbert, P.J., Thomas H. Newton and Alok Ahuja, JJ.

Attorneys:

Jill M. Katz, KCMO and Edward E. Moore, KCMO for respondents

Steven G. Sakoulas, KCMO for appellant

MISSOURI APPELLATE COURT OPINION SUMMARY COURT OF APPEALS -- WESTERN DISTRICT

IN THE INTEREST OF; T.J. and W.J., JUVENILE OFFICER

Respondent,

v.

V.L.C. (Mother),

Appellant.

WD78963 Jackson County

Before Division One Judges: Anthony Rex Gabbert, P.J., Thomas H. Newton and Alok Ahuja, JJ.

The Circuit Court of Jackson County entered judgment finding that V.L.C.'s children, T.J. and W.J., were subject to the jurisdiction of the court pursuant to § 211.031, RSMo, because V.L.C. was neglecting them. The court placed the children in the custody of their father (V.L.C.'s ex-husband), subject to supervision by the Children's Division of the Department of Social Services.

V.L.C. ("Mother") appeals.

DISMISSED.

Division One holds:

Subsequent to the filing of Mother's notice of appeal, the circuit court entered a final judgment terminating the court's prior orders and releasing the children from the jurisdiction of the court. Because the circuit court has terminated the underlying proceeding and released the affected children from jurisdiction, V.L.C. has secured the relief she seeks in this appeal, and a decision by this Court would not grant any effective relief. The appeal is moot, and none of the exceptions to the mootness doctrine would justify us in addressing the merits of the appeal.

Opinion by: Alok Ahuja, Judge July 26, 2016

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